



Executive Proclamation by Governor Bill Walker

WHEREAS, Article VII, Section 1 of the Alaska Constitution directs the Legislature to "establish and maintain a system of public schools open to all children of the state." By law, the Legislature has vested the governance of Alaska's public school system in boards of locally elected citizens; and

WHEREAS, school board members are dedicated to the success of Alaska's public schools and the students who attend, and they work closely with educational professionals, parents, and other community members to promote excellence in student learning and academic achievement; and

WHEREAS, school board members contribute their time and talents to their communities and offer a vision and voice of advocacy for public school students; and

WHEREAS, school boards in Alaska serve an important function in our education system – they communicate the needs of our students and schools, serve as bridges between the school district and the public, and uphold the mission of advancing public education for the prosperity of Alaska's youth; and

WHEREAS, Alaska school board members also serve a crucial function in communicating the needs of our students and schools to public policy makers, and in turn, the expectations of the public to employees in the district; and

WHEREAS, the State Board of Education and Early Development and the Department of Education and Early Development are undertaking an effort to meet Alaska's education challenge so that every student across our state has equal opportunities to learn and succeed, and the State looks forward to partnering with school board members, education professionals, students, parents, and all Alaskans to meet this challenge.

NOW THEREFORE, I, Bill Walker, GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF ALASKA, do hereby proclaim February 2017 as:

School Board Recognition Month

in Alaska, and encourage all Alaskans to recognize the hard work and dedication of school board members across the state, and to join them in creating and supporting an education system that meets the individual needs of Alaska's students.

Dated: February 1, 2017

Bill Walker, Governor
who has also authorized the
seal of the State of Alaska to

seal of the State of Alaska to be affixed to this proclamation.